Vehicle and Equipment Parking and Storage

This activity applies to all types of parking lots (commercial, public, and private), retail store parking lots, fleet vehicle lots and yards (including rent-a-car lots and car dealerships), industrial areas, equipment sale and rental lots, and parking lot driveways. Stormwater runoff from these sites can be contaminated with toxic hydrocarbons and other organic compounds, oils and greases, metals, nutrients, and suspended solids.

MINIMUM REQUIRED ROUTINE MAINTENANCE

The following BMPs, or equivalent measures, methods, or practices are required if you have parking lots and driveways:



Sweep parking lots, storage areas, and driveways as needed to collect dirt, waste, and debris. Do not hose down the area to the storm drainage system.



If washing/pressure washing of the parking lot occurs, the wash water must be collected and discharged to a sanitary sewer or other treatment system. There are services that will clean parking lots and collect water for off-site disposal. Never drain washwater to the storm drainage system.



See BMP Info Sheet 2 in Chapter 5 for information on disposal options.



Gravel and dirt lots may require additional BMPs to prevent sediment laden water from leaving your site. Vehicles can track dirt out of parking and storage areas onto public roadways. Basic sediment controls as outlined in Appendix D ("Erosion and Sediment Control Standards") of the King County Surface Water Design Manual must be installed if other BMPs do not adequately control sediment laden water from entering off site storm water conveyance systems or surface water. Wheel wash facilities may need to be considered if track out of mud becomes a problem. See Activity Sheet A-41, "Wheel Wash and Tire Bath Operations."

ADDITIONAL BMPs

The following BMPs are optional, unless the above minimum required BMPs do not provide adequate source control.



Encourage employees to carpool or use public transit through incentives.



Encourage customers to use public transit by rewarding valid transit pass holders with discounts.



A catch basin insert configured for sediment and also oil removal may remove some of the pollutants in runoff from this activity. Catch basin inserts may require frequent maintenance to be effective. Carefully consider this when evaluating your options.



Clean up oil and antifreeze spills with absorbent materials.



See BMP Info Sheet 10 in Chapter 5 for more information.

For more information or assistance in implementing these best management practices, contact the King County Department of Natural Resources and Parks Water and Land Resources Division at 206-296-1900.

Reader Note: The above requirements are the minimum required BMPs. If these BMPs fail to prevent discharges to the storm drainage system, you will be asked to take additional measures to correct the continued pollution discharges.